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A/AC.109/L.1725
11 July 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH
REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF
INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES
AND PEOPLES

TWO HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FOURTH REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE
ON PETITIONS, INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

Chairman: Mr. Alexander SLABÝ (Czechoslovakia)

EXAMINATION OF THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE CARRYING INTO EFFECT
OF THE PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL
COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

1. At its 470th meeting, on 28 March 1990, the Sub-Committee on Petitions, Information and Assistance decided to include in its organization of work the question of "Examination of the progress made in the carrying into effect of the Plan of Action for the Full Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 35/118 of 11 December 1980".

2. The examination of the progress made in the carrying into effect of the Plan of Action was one of the highlights of the work of the Sub-Committee and the discussions on all items on its agenda. During those discussions, strong support for the carrying into effect of the Plan and for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration was explicitly expressed by most of the specialized agencies, international institutions and non-governmental organizations consulted by the Sub-Committee on questions relating to the implementation of the Declaration. Their statements to the Sub-Committee contained many examples of concrete activities undertaken in favour of decolonization in accordance with the aims of the Plan. Also, during consultations with the Organization of African Unity and national liberation movements, strong support in the same direction was explicitly expressed.

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3. At its 477th meeting, on 3 May 1990, the Sub-Committee noted the fact that since the adoption of the Plan of Action, only 39 Governments had sent in replies (see A/AC.109/687/Add.1-11) in response to the communications of the Secretary-General relating to the Plan and had forwarded information on measures they had undertaken or intended to adopt with a view to the implementation of the Plan. The Sub-Committee thus decided to recommend to the Special Committee that it urge the Secretary-General to request once more those States that had not yet done so to reply as speedily as possible to his previous communications relating to the Plan.

4. Taking into account that the General Assembly, by its resolution 43/47 of 22 November 1988, had declared the period 1990-2000 as the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, the Sub-Committee recommends that the Special Committee request the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session a report that would enable the Assembly to consider and adopt an action plan aimed at ushering in the twenty-first century, a world free of colonialism.

5. The Sub-Committee recommends that the Special Committee continue to consider the progress made in the carrying into effect of the Plan of Action in 1991.

6. The Sub-Committee adopted the present report by consensus at its 480th meeting, on 29 June 1990.

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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON SMALL TERRITORIES

Rapporteur: Mr. Dag Mjaaland (Norway)

ANGUILLA

A. Consideration by the Sub-Committee

1. The Sub-Committee considered the Territory of Anguilla at its 602nd to 604th, and 613th meetings, between 5 April and 1 June 1990.

2. During its consideration of this item, the Sub-Committee had before it the working papers prepared by the Secretariat on the Territory (A/AC.109/1026 and A/AC.109/1035).

3. In a letter dated 30 January 1986 addressed to the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations had informed him of the following:

> "My Government has decided that the United Kingdom will henceforth not take part in the work of the Special Committee on decolonization or its sub-committees ... We shall continue strictly to fulfil our responsibilities under the United Nations Charter towards our Non-Self-Governing Territories, particularly the responsibilities set out in Article 73. We shall also inform the Secretary-General of any relevant political and constitutional developments in those Territories."

4. The United Kingdom delegation did not participate in the Sub-Committee's consideration of the Territory of Anguilla, thus making it difficult for the Sub-Committee to conduct a thorough review of developments in the Territory.

5. The Sub-Committee, recalling that it had been the established procedure for the administering Power to participate in the consideration of the Territories under its administration and bearing in mind the provisions of the relevant General Assembly resolutions, particularly those that invited all States to co-operate fully with the Special Committee in the fulfilment of its mandate, expressed its regret at the non-participation of the United Kingdom and the negative impact that that had on its work. In that regard, the Sub-Committee stressed the importance of multilateral efforts within the framework of the United Nations for the solution of the remaining problems of decolonization. It reiterated its appeal to the administering Power to reconsider its decision and to resume its participation in the work of the Special Committee, and called upon the administering Power to provide detailed and up-to-date information under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations.

B. Adoption of the report

6. Having carefully examined the situation in Anguilla, the Sub-Committee adopted by consensus its conclusions and recommendations on Anguilla at its 613th meeting, on 1 June 1990 (see para. 8).

7. The Sub-Committee adopted the present report at the same meeting.

C. Conclusions and recommendations

8. The Sub-Committee submits the following conclusions and recommendations concerning Anguilla for adoption by the Special Committee:

(1) The Special Committee reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of Anguilla to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960.

(2) The Special Committee reiterates the view that such factors as territorial size, geographical location, size of population and limited natural resources should in no way delay the speedy exercise by the people of Anguilla of their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), which fully applies to the Territory.

(3) The Special Committee also reiterates that it is the responsibility of the administering Power to create such conditions in the Territory as will enable the people of Anguilla to exercise freely and without interference their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in accordance with General

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Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), as well as all other relevant resolutions of the Assembly.

(4) The Special Committee reaffirms that it is ultimately for the people of Anguilla themselves to determine freely their future political status. In this connection, the Committee reaffirms the importance of fostering an awareness among the people of the Territory of the possibilities open to them in the exercise of their right to self-determination and independence in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration.

(5) The Special Committee notes that the Government of the United Kingdom has agreed to several of the changes recommended by the Anguilla House of Assembly, based on the report of the Constitution Review Committee which was appointed in 1985 to consider constitutional changes. The Committee notes, however, that the administering Power has not changed its position regarding the restriction or delegation to ministers of the territorial Government, of any or all of the Governor's special responsibilities without setting a time-frame for independence.

(6) The Special Committee notes that the changes agreed upon have been referred to the Legal Advisers of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, who were instructed to begin work on the amendments, with a view to implementing them in early 1990, and that in January 1990 a government delegation visited London to discuss with officials of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office the amendments to the Constitution.

(7) The Special Committee notes the results of the general elections of 29 February 1989 and the statement of the Chief Minister that the Government of Anguilla had no intention of moving towards independence during its current term of office.

(8) The Special Committee reaffirms the responsibility of the administering Power to promote the economic and social development of Anguilla and calls upon the administering Power to continue, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to strengthen the economy and to increase its assistance to programmes of diversification.

(9) The Special Committee urges the administering Power, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the people of Anguilla to own and dispose of the natural resources of the Territory, including marine resources, and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources. In this connection, the Committee takes note of reports of the possible sale of one of Anguilla's offshore islands to an international group of bankers and agrees to keep the situation under review.

(10) The Special Committee calls upon the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue to take all necessary measures to accelerate progress in the social and economic life of the Territory. In this respect, the Committee notes with appreciation the continued contribution

of the United Nations Development Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, to the development of the Territory.

(11) The Special Committee notes that the Territory was considering undertaking a comprehensive review of current banking, companies, insurance and trust legislation and expresses the hope that such a review would facilitate efforts to combat effectively the problem of money-laundering in the Territory. It further notes that the Territory became a member of the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank in 1987.

(12) The Special Committee once again expresses its concern over the continued illegal operations of foreign fishing vessels within the territorial waters and the offshore fishing banks. The Committee stresses that this uncontrolled exploitation could deplete current fish stocks and adversely affect future yields. The Committee welcomes the measures taken by the Government and the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States designed to protect and conserve the Territory's marine resources and to control the activities of illegal foreign fishermen in the area.

(13) The Special Committee notes the continued participation of the Territory in the Caribbean Group for Co-operation in Economic Development and in the activities of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee, a subsidiary body of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean. In this connection, the Committee reiterates the recommendation of the Visiting Mission in 1984, that the administering Power should continue to make every effort to facilitate and encourage the participation of representatives of the Territory in regional and international organizations.

(14) The Special Committee notes the importance that the territorial Government attaches to an efficient and effective civil service and urges the administering Power to continue, in co-operation with the territorial Government, the assistance necessary for increased employment of the local population in the civil service, as well as in managerial, technical and other sectors of the economy.

(15) The Special Committee notes with concern the vulnerability of the Territory to drug trafficking and money-laundering activities and, in that connection, calls upon the administering Power to continue to take all necessary measures, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to combat the drug problem in all its aspects within the Territory.

(16) The Special Committee, recalling that a United Nations mission visited the Territory in 1984 and bearing in mind that visiting missions provide an effective means of assessing the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, considers that the possibility of sending a further visiting mission to Anguilla at an appropriate time should be kept under review.

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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON SMALL TERRITORIES

Rapporteur: Mr. Dag MJAALAND (Norway)

BERMUDA

A. Consideration by the Sub-Committee

1. The Sub-Committee considered the Territory of Bermuda at its 603rd, 604th and 618th meetings, between 10 April and 14 June 1990.

2. During its consideration of this item, the Sub-Committee had before it the working papers prepared by the Secretariat on the Territory (A/AC.109/1025, A/AC.109/1027 and A/AC.109/1028).

3. In a letter dated 30 January 1986 addressed to the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations had informed him of the following:

> "My Government has decided that the United Kingdom will henceforth not take part in the work of the Special Committee on decolonization or its sub-committees ... We shall continue strictly to fulfil our responsibilities under the United Nations Charter towards our Non-Self-Governing Territories, particularly the responsibilities set out in Article 73. We shall also inform the Secretary-General of any relevant political and constitutional developments in those Territories."

4. The United Kingom delegation did nct participate in the Sub-Committee's consideration of the Territory of Bermuda, thus making it difficult for the Sub-Committee to conduct a thorough review of developments in the Territory.

5. The Sub-Committee, recalling that it had been the established procedure for the administering Power to participate in the consideration of the Territory under its administration and bearing in mind the provisions of the relevant General Assembly resolutions, particularly those that invited all States to co-operate fully with the Special Committee in the fulfilment of its mandate, expressed its regret at the non-participation of the United Kingdom and the negative impact that that had on its work. In that regard, the Sub-Committee stressed the importance of multilateral efforts within the framework of the United Nations for the solution of the remaining problems of decolonization. It reiterated its appeal to the administering Power to reconsider its decision and to resume its participation in the work of the Special Committee.

B. Adoption of the report

6. Having carefully examined the situation in Bermuda, the Sub-Committee adopted by consensus its conclusions and recommendations on Bermuda at its 618th meeting, on 14 June 1990 (see para. 8).

7. The Sub-Committee adopted the present report at the same meeting.

C. Conclusions and recommendations

8. The Sub-Committee submits the following conclusions and recommendations concerning Bermuda for adoption by the Special Committee:

(1) The Special Committee reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of Bermuda to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960.

(2) The Special Committee reiterates the view that such factors as territorial size, geographical location, size of population and limited natural resources should in no way delay the speedy exercise by the people of Bermuda of their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), which fully applies to the Territory.

(3) The Special Committee reiterates further that it is the responsibility of the administering Power to create such conditions in the Territory as will enable the people of Bermuda to exercise freely and without interference their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) as well as all other relevant resolutions of the Assembly.

(4) The Special Committee reaffirms that it is ultimately for the people of Bermuda themselves to determine their future political status. In this connection, the Committee reaffirms the importance of fostering an awareness among the people of the Territory of the possibilities open to them in the exercise of their right to self-determination and independence in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration.

(5) The Special Committee notes that, following the general elections of 1989 during which the ruling United Bermuda Party retained power in the House of Assembly despite the loss of eight seats, its leader, the Prime Minister, stated that the question of independence was no longer a major issue because the majority of the people did not seem to want independence at present. The Committee also notes that the leader of the largest opposition party (Progressive Labour Party) considers that independence would help to unify the people of Bermuda. In this connection, the Committee notes that the Governor of Bermuda stated that the Government of Bermuda recognized that it had a responsibility to obtain pertinent information on the question of independence should circumstances change.

(6) The Special Committee reaffirms its strong conviction that the presence of military bases and installations in the Territory could constitute a major obstacle to the implementation of the Declaration and that it is the responsibility of the administering Power to ensure that the existence of such bases and installations does not hinder the population of the Territory from exercising its right to self-determination and independence in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter.

(7) The Special Committee urges the administering Power to continue to take all necessary measures not to involve Bermuda in any offensive acts or interference against other States and to comply fully with the purposes and principles of the Charter, the Declaration and the resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly relating to military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration.

(8) The Special Committee reaffirms the responsiblity of the adminsitering Power to promote the economic and social development of the Territory. The Committee recommends that priority should continue to be given to the diversification of the Territory's economy in order to provide the foundations for sound social and economic development. In this connection, the Committee notes that in January 1988, the Government of Bermuda started work on a new development plan for the Territory with a view to involving the public as closely as possible in its preparation.

(9) The Special Committee urges the administering Power, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to continue to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the people of Bermuda to own and dispose of the natural resources of the Territory, including marine resources, and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources.

(10) The Special Committee calls upon the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to continue to take all necessary

measures to accelerate progress in the social and economic life of the Territory. In this respect, the Committee notes with appreciation the continued contribution of the United Nations Development Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, to the development of the Territory.

(11) The Special Committee notes with concern the vulnerability of the Territory to drug activities and, in that connection, calls upon the administering Power to continue to take all necessary measures, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to combat the drug problem in all its aspects within the Territory.

(12) Mindful that United Nations visitimg missions provide an effective means of assessing the situation in Non-Self-Goverming Territories, the Special Committee considers that the possibility of sending a visiting mission to Bermuda at an appropriate time should be kept under review.

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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON SMALL TERRITORIES

Rapporteur: Mr. Dag MJAALAND (Norway)

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

A. Consideration by the Sub-Committee

1. The Sub-Committee considered the Territory of the British Virgin Islands at its 602nd to 604th, and 612th meetings, between 5 April and 31 May 1990.

2. During its consideration of this item, the Sub-Committee had before it a working paper on the Territory prepared by the Secretariat (A/AC.109/1021).

3. In a letter dated 30 January 1986 addressed to the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations had informed him that:

> "My Government has decided that the United Kingdom will henceforth not take part in the work of the Special Committee on decolonization or its sub-committees ... We shall continue strictly to fulfil our responsibilities under the United Nations Charter towards our Non-Self-Governing Territories, particularly the responsibilities set out in Article 73. We shall also inform the Secretary-General of any relevant political and constitutional developments in those Territories."

4. The United Kingdom delegation did not participate in the Sub-Committee's consideration of the Territory of the British Virgin Islands, thus making it

difficult for the Sub-Committee to conduct a thorough review of developments in the Territory.

5. The Sub-Committee, recalling that it had been the established procedure for the administering Power to participate in the consideration of the Territories under its administration and bearing in mind the provisions of the relevant General Assembly resolutions, particularly those that invited all States to co-operate fully with the Special Committee in the fulfilment of its mandate, expressed its regret at the non-participation of the United Kingdom and the negative impact that that had on its work. In that regard, the Sub-Committee stressed the importance of multilateral efforts within the framework of the United Nations for the solution of the remaining problems of decolonization. It reiterated its appeal to the administering Power to reconsider its decision and to resume its participation in the work of the Special Committee, and called upon the administering Power to provide detailed and up-to-date information under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations.

B. Adoption of the report

6. Having carefully examined the situation in the British Virgin Islands, the Sub-Committee adopted by consensus its conclusions and recommendations on the British Virgin Islands at its 612th meeting, on 31 May 1990 (see para. 8).

7. The Sub-Committee adopted the present report at the same meeting.

C. Conclusions and recommendations

8. The Sub-Committee submits the following conclusions and recommendations concerning the British Virgin Islands for adoption by the Special Committee:

(1) The Special Committee reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of the British Virgin Islands to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960.

(2) The Special Committee reiterates the view that such factors as territorial size, geographical location, size of population and limited natural resources should in no way delay the speedy exercise by the people of the British Virgin Islands of their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration, which fully applies to the Territory.

(3) The Special Committee reiterates further that it is the responsibility of the administering Power to create such conditions in the Territory as will enable the people of the British Virgin Islands to exercise freely and without interference their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), as well as all other relevant resolutions of the Assembly.

(4) The Special Committee reaffirms that it is ultimately for the people of the British Virgin Islands themselves to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration, and in this connection, reaffirms the importance of fostering an awareness among the people of the Territory of the possibilities open to them in the exercise of their right to self-determination.

(5) The Special Committee takes note of the announcement on 22 December 1987 by the territorial Government that it would introduce legislation to revise the electoral laws of the Territory to provide for continuous voter registration.

(6) The Special Committee urges the administering Power, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the people of the British Virgin Islands to own and dispose of the natural resources of the Territory, including marine resources, and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources.

(7) The Special Committee welcomes the contribution to the development of the Territory by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, particularly the United Nations Development Programme, as well as regional organizations, including the Caribbean Development Bank, and urges those organizations to intensify their measures to accelerate progress in the social and economic development of the British Virgin Islands.

(8) The Special Committee reaffirms the responsibility of the administering Power to promote the economic and social development of the Territory. The Committee calls upon the administering Power to intensify its efforts, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to broaden the economic base of the Territory through diversification and, in that connection, further calls upon the administering Power to continue to increase its assistance to the Territory in the rehabitilitation and reconstruction of the economy.

(9) The Special Committee notes the severe effects of hurricane Hugo on the Territory's economy, particularly on its infrastructre, agriculture and tourism sectors, as well as its adverse consequences on the Government's economic diversification efforts.

(10) The Special Committee recalls General Assembly resolution 44/3 of 12 October 1989 entitled "Emergency assistance to Antigua and Barbuda, the British Virgin Islands, Dominica, Montserrat and Saint Kitts and Nevis" which, inter alia, urges all States, as a matter of urgency, to contribute generously to the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts in those countries affected by hurricane Hugo. The Committee also recalls resolution 44/95 of 11 December 1989 on the question of the British Virgin Islands in which the Assembly urges Member States and specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to extend all possible assistance with a view to rehabilitating and reconstructing the Territory, which was devasted by hurricane Hugo.

(11) The Special Committee notes that domestic fishing output continues to be hampered by the sophisticated techniques of foreign vessels. The Committee reiterates its concern over the continued illegal operations of foreign fishermen

and stresses that this uncontrolled exploitation could deplete current fish stocks and adversely affect future yields. In this connection, the Committee calls upon the administering Power to continue to assist the territorial Government in controlling the illegal operations of foreign fishing vessels in the Territory's waters.

(12) The Special Committee notes the continued participation of the Territory in regional organizations, including the Caribbean Development Bank. The Committee further notes the participation of the Territory in international organizations, including the Caribbean Group for Co-operation for Economic Development, sponsored by the World Bank, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and its subsidiary bodies, and reiterates its call upon the administering Power to continue to facilitate the further participation of the British Virgin Islands in those organizations and in other organizations of the United Nations system.

(13) The Special Committee notes that expatriates still account for a large share of the employed labour force and that there is a critical need for the training of nationals in the technical, vocational, managerial and professional fields. The Committee takes note of the policy of the Government to improve the education and qualifications of the Territory's human resources and, in that connection, welcomes the establishment of the British Virgin Islands College, which would meet the needs of the public and private sectors of the Territory. The Committee reiterates its call upon the administering Power, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to facilitate the adoption of a human resources training programme, in order to expand the participation of the local population in the decision-making process in all sectors and to fill managerial and technical positions with local persons.

(14) The Special Committee notes with concern the vulnerability of the Territory to drug-trafficking and money-laundering activities and, in that connection, calls upon the administering Power to continue to take all necessary measures, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to combat the drug problem in all its aspects within the Territory.

(15) Mindful that United Nations visiting missions provide an effective means of assessing at first hand the situation prevailing in Non-Self-Governing Territories, the Special Committee reiterates the view that the possibility of sending a further visiting mission to the British Virgin Islands should be kept under review.

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INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES
AND PEOPLES

REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON SMALL TERRITORIES

Rapporteur: Mr. Dag MJAALAND (Norway)

CAYMAN ISLANDS

A. Consideration by the Sub-Committee

1. The Sub-Committee considered the Territory of the Cayman Islands at its 601st, 602nd, 608th, 609th and 612th meetings, between 6 March and 31 May 1990.

2. During its consideration of this item, the Sub-Committee had before it the working papers prepared by the Secretariat on the Territory (A/AC.109/1019 and A/AC.109/1020).

3. In a letter dated 30 January 1986 addressed to the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations had informed him that:

> "My Government has decided that the United Kingdom will henceforth not take part in the work of the Special Committee on decolonization or its sub-committees ... We shall continue strictly to fulfil our responsibilities under the United Nations Charter towards our Non-Self-Governing Territories, particularly the responsibilities set out in Article 73. We shall also inform the Secretary-General of any relevant political and constitutional developments in those Territories."

4. The United Kingdom delegation did not participate in the Sub-Committee's consideration of the Territory of the Cayman Islands, thus making it difficult for the Sub-Committee to conduct a thorough review of developments in the Territory.

5. The Sub-Committee, recalling that it had been the established procedure for the administering Power to participate in the consideration of the Territory under its administration and bearing in mind the provisions of the relevant General Assembly resolutions, particularly those which invited all States to co-operate fully with the Special Committee in the fulfilment of its mandate, expressed its regret at the non-participation of the United Kingdom and the negative impact that that had on its work. In that regard, the Sub-Committee stressed the importance of multilateral efforts within the framework of the United Nations for the solution of the remaining problems of decolonization. It reiterated its appeal to the administering Power to reconsider its decision and to resume its participation in the work of the Special Committee, and called upon the administering Power to provide detailed and up-to-date information under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations.

B. Adoption of the report

6. Having carefully examined the situation in the Cayman Islands, the Sub-Committee adopted by consensus its conclusions and recommendations on the Cayman Islands at its 612th meeting, on 31 May 1990 (see para. 8).

7. The Sub-Committee adopted the present report at the same meeting.

C. Conclusions and recommendations

8. The Sub-Committee submits the following conclusions and recommendations concerning the Cayman Islands for adoption by the Special Committee:

(1) The Special Committee reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of the Cayman Islands to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960.

(2) The Special Committee reiterates the view that such factors as territorial size, geographical location, size of population and limited natural resources should in no way delay the speedy exercise by the people of the Cayman Islands of their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), which fully applies to the Territory.

(3) The Special Committee reiterates further that it is the responsibility of the administering Power to create such conditions in the Territory as will enable the people of the Cayman Islands to exercise freely and without interference their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), as well as all other relevant resolutions of the Assembly.

(4) The Special Committee reaffirms that it is ultimately for the people of the Cayman Islands themselves to determine their future political status. In this connection, the Committee reaffirms the importance of fostering an awareness among the people of the Territory of the possibilities open to them in the exercise of their right to self-determination and independence, in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration.

(5) The Special Committee notes that expatriates still account for a large share of the employed labour force and that there is a critical need for the training of nationals in the technical, vocational, managerial and professional fields. In this connection, the Committee takes note of the efforts of the territorial Government to implement its localization programme to promote increased participation of the local population in the decision-making process in the Cayman Islands. It calls upon the administering Power, in consultation with the territorial Government, to facilitate the expansion of the current localization programme.

(6) The Special Committee reaffirms the responsibility of the administering Power to promote the economic and social development of the Territory. In this connection, the Committee recommends that priority should continue to be given to the diversification of the Territory's economy in order to provide the foundations for sound social and economic development. Noting the steps taken by the territorial Government to promote agricultural production, the Committee calls on the administering Power to provide the necessary assistance in this field so as to solve the serious problem of the Territory's heavy dependence on imported foodstuffs.

(7) The Special Committee urges the administering Power, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the people of the Cayman Islands to own and dispose of the natural resources of the Territory, including marine resources, and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources. In this connection, the Committee takes note of reports of growing concern in the Territory over the sale of land to foreign investors and expresses its concern that property and land development continue to be controlled largely by foreign investors.

(8) The Special Committee calls upon the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue to take all necessary measures to accelerate progress in the social and economic life of the Territory. In this respect, the Committee notes with appreciation the continued contribution of the United Nations Development Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, to the development of the Territory.

(9) The Special Committee notes with concern the vulnerability of the Territory to drug smuggling, money laundering and other illicit activities and, in that connection, calls upon the administering Power to continue to take all necessary measures, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to combat these problems in all their aspects within the Territory. The Committee takes note of the extension to 25 November 1988 of the 1984 Narcotics Agreement between the Cayman Islands, the United Kingdom and the United States of America and notes

further that there has been mutual co-operation in this regard. The Committee also takes note of the signing in November 1989 at Miami, Florida, United States, by the Government of the Cayman Islands, together with 18 other countries of the region, of a Caribbean customs agreement entitled "Memorandum of Understanding regarding Mutual Assistance and Co-operation for the Prevention and Repression of Customs Offences in the Carribean Zone", referred to as "MOU", which is aimed at preventing problems arising from the smuggling of funds, money laundering and false invoicing, as well as the detection of various kinds of white-collar fraud and the interdiction of illegal drugs.

(10) Mindful that United Nations visiting missions provide an effective means of assessing the situation in Non-Self-Governing Territories, the Special Committee considers that the possibility of sending a further visiting mission to the Cayman Islands at an appropriate time should be kept under review.

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A

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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON SMALL TERRITORIES

Rapporteur: Mr. Dag MJAALAND (Norway)

MONTSERRAT

A. Consideration by the Sub-Committee

1. The Sub-Committee considered the Territory of Montserrat at its 605th to 607th and 614th meetings, between 24 April and 4 June 1990.

2. During its consideration of this item, the Sub-Committee had before it the working papers prepared by the Secretariat on the Territory (A/AC.109/1031 and A/AC.109/1032).

3. In a letter dated 30 January 1986 addressed to the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations had informed him of the following:

> "My Government has decided that the United Kingdom will henceforth not take part in the work of the Special Committee on decolonization or its sub-committees ... We shall continue strictly to fulfil our responsibilities under the United Nations Charter towards our Non-Self-Governing Territories, particularly the responsibilities set out in Article 73. We shall also inform the Secretary-General of any relevant political and constitutional developments in those Territories."

4. The United Kingdom delegation did not participate in the Sub-Committee's consideration of the Territory of Montserrat, thus making it difficult for the Sub-Committee to conduct a thorough review of developments in the Territory.

5. The Sub-Committee, recalling that it had been the established procedure for the administering Power to participate in the consideration of the Territory under its administration and bearing in mind the provisions of the relevant General Assembly resolutions, particularly those that invited all States to co-operate fully with the Special Committee in the fulfilment of its mandate, expressed its regret at the non-participation of the United Kingdom and the negative impact that that had on its work. In that regard, the Sub-Committee stressed the importance of multilateral efforts within the framework of the United Nations for the solution of the remaining problems of decolonization. It reiterated its appeal to the administering Power to reconsider its decision and to resume its participation in the work of the Special Committee, and called upon the administering Power to provide detailed and up-to-date information under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations.

B. Adoption of the report

6. Having carefully examined the situation in Montserrat, the Sub-Committee adopted by consensus its conclusions and recommendations on Montserrat at its 614th meeting, on 4 June 1990 (see para. 8).

7. The Sub-Committee adopted the present report at the same meeting.

C. Conclusions and recommendations

8. The Sub-Committee submits the following conclusions and recommendations concerning Montserrat for adoption by the Special Committee:

(1) The Special Committee reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of Montserrat to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960.

(2) The Special Committee reiterates the view that such factors as territorial size, geographical location, size of population and limited natural resources should in no way delay the speedy exercise by the people of Montserrat of their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), which fully applies to the Territory.

(3) The Special Committee reiterates further that it is the responsibility of the administering Power to create such conditions in the Territory as will enable the people of Montserrat to exercise freely and without interference their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), as well as all other relevant resolutions of the Assembly.

(4) The Special Committee reaffirms that it is ultimately for the people of Montserrat themselves to determine their future political status. In this connection, the Committee reaffirms the importance of fostering an awareness among the people of the Territory of the possibilities available to them in the exercise of their right to self-determination and independence in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration.

(5) The Special Committee takes note of the constitutional developments that have been taking place in the Territory as well as the conclusion, on 13 February 1990, of the consultations between the administering Power and the territorial Government on matters referring to the new Constitution.

(6) The Special Committee reaffirms the responsibility of the administering Power to promote the economic and social development of the Territory. In this connection the Committee reiterates the importance of diversifying of the Territory's economy in order to provide the foundations for sound social and economic development.

(7) The Special Committee urges the administering Power, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to take effective measures to safeguard, guarantee and ensure the inalienable right of the people of Montserrat to own and dispose of its natural resources, including its marine resources, and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources.

(8) The Special Committee notes the observation of the Caribbean Development Bank that emigration would exacerbate the shortage of human resources and urges the administering Power, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to provide incentives to assist nationals in finding better opportunities at home and to attract qualified nationals from abroad.

(9) The Special Committee emphasizes the importance of taking measures to broaden the educational programme and notes with satisfaction the policy of the Government to develop the Territory's human resources through the rationalization of the educational system. In this regard, the Special Committee urges the administering Power to continue to provide the necessary assistance to the Territory.

(10) The Special Committee expresses its sympathies to the people of Montserrat for the devastation wrought on the Territory by hurricane Hugo in 1989 and welcomes the assistance extended to the Territory by the administering Power, other Members States and relevant agencies of the United Nations system.

(11) The Special Committee notes that, owing to the magnitude of the devastation in Montserrat, the Territory will require substantial assistance in its rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts. In this regard, the Special Committee urges the administering Power, other Member States and relevant agencies of the United Nations system to continue to contribute generously to such efforts, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 44/3 of 12 October 1989.

(12) The Special Committee welcomes the contribution to the development of the Territory by the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund and all specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system operating in Montserrat. In this regard, the Committee calls upon these and other international and regional organizations, as well as donor Governments, to intensify their efforts to accelerate progress in the economic and social development of the Territory.

(13) The Special Committee reiterates that, since the administering Power withdrew the associate membership of Montserrat from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in 1983, the Territory has not been able to benefit fully from the activities of that agency. The Committee, noting the interest of the Government of Montserrat in readmission of the Territory as an associate member of the agency and noting with concern that no action has been taken in this regard, once again reiterates its call upon the administering Power, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to take urgent steps to facilitate such readmission.

(14) The Special Committee recalls that United Nations missions visited the Territory in 1975 and 1982. Mindful that visiting missions provide an effective means of assessing the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, the Committee considers that the possibility of sending a further visiting mission to Montserrat at an appropriate time should be kept under review.

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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION
WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING
OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL
COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON SMALL TERRITORIES

Rapporteur: Mr. Dag MJAALAND (Norway)

PITCAIRN

A. Consideration by the Sub-Committee

1. The Sub-Committee considered the Territory of Pitcairn at its 600th, 601st and 613th meetings, between 9 February and 1 June 1990.

2. During its consideration of this item, the Sub-Committee had before it the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the Territory (A/AC.109/1015 and Corr.1).

3. In a letter dated 30 January 1986 addressed to the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations had informed him of the following:

> "My Government has decided that the United Kingdom will henceforth not take part in the work of the Special Committee on decolonization or its sub-committees ... We shall continue strictly to fulfil our responsibilities under the United Nations Charter towards our Non-Self-Governing Territories, particularly the responsibilities set out in Article 73. We shall also inform the Secretary-General of any relevant political and constitutional developments in those Territories."

4. The United Kingdom delegation did not participate in the Sub-Committee's consideration of the Territory of Pitcairn, thus making it difficult for the Sub-Committee to conduct a thorough review of developments in the Territory.

5. The Sub-Committee, recalling that it had been the established procedure for the administering Power to participate in the consideration of the Territory under its administration and bearing in mind the provisions of the relevant General Assembly resolutions, particularly those that invited all States to co-operate fully with the Special Committee in the fulfilment of its mandate, expressed its regret at the non-participation of the United Kingdom and the negative impact that that had on its work. In that regard, the Sub-Committee stressed the importance of multilateral efforts within the framework of the United Nations for the solution of the remaining problems of decolonization. It reiterated its appeal to the administering Power to reconsider its decision and to resume its participation in the work of the Special Committee, and called upon the administering Power to provide detailed and up-to-date information under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations.

B. Adoption of the report

6. Having carefully examined the situation in Pitcairn, the Sub-Committee adopted a consensus on the Territory at its 613th meeting, on 1 June 1990 (see para. 8).

7. The Sub-Committee adopted the present report at the same meeting.

C. Conclusions and recommendations

8. The Sub-Committee submits the following consensus on Pitcairn for adoption by the Special Committee:

> "The Special Committee reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of Pitcairn to self-determination in conformity with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, which fully applies to the Territory. It further reaffirms the responsibility of the administering Power to promote the economic and social development of the Territory. It urges the administering Power to continue to respect the very individual life-style that the people of the Territory have chosen and to preserve, promote and protect it."

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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION
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OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL
COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON SMALL TERRITORIES

Rapporteur: Mr. Dag MJAALAND (Norway)

ST. HELENA

A. Consideration by the Sub-Committee

1. The Sub-Committee considered the Territory of St. Helena at its 600th, 601st and 618th meetings, between 9 February and 14 June 1990.

2. During its consideration of this item, the Sub-Committee had before it the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the Territory (A/AC.109/1016).

3. In a letter dated 30 January 1986 addressed to the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations had informed him of the following:

> "My Government has decided that the United Kingdom will henceforth not take part in the work of the Special Committee on decolonization or its sub-committees ... We shall continue strictly to fulfil our responsibilities under the United Nations Charter towards our Non-Self-Governing Territories, particularly the responsibilities set out in Article 73. We shall also inform the Secretary-General of any relevant political and constitutional developments in those Territories."

4. The United Kingdom delegation did not participate in the Sub-Committee's consideration of the Territory of St. Helena, thus making it difficult for the Sub-Committee to conduct a thorough review of developments in the Territory.

5. The Sub-Committee, recalling that it had been the established procedure for the administering Power to participate in the consideration of the Territories under its administration and bearing in mind the provisions of the relevant General Assembly resolutions, particularly those that invited all States to co-operate fully with the Special Committee in the fulfilment of its mandate, expressed its regret at the non-participation of the United Kingdom and the negative impact that that had on its work. In that regard, the Sub-Committee stressed the importance of multilateral efforts within the framework of the United Nations for the solution of the remaining problems of decolonization. It reiterated its appeal to the administering Power to reconsider its decision and to resume its participation in the work of the Special Committee.

B. Adoption of the report

6. Having carefully examined the situation in St. Helena, the Sub-Committee adopted by consensus its conclusions and recommendations on St. Helena at its 618th meeting, on 14 June 1990 (see para. 9).

7. The Sub-Committee adopted the present report at the same meeting.

8. The representative of Norway expressed the reservation of his delegation concerning paragraph 9 (5) and (8).

C. Conclusions and recommendations

9. The Sub-Committee submits the following conclusions and recommendations concerning St. Helena for adoption by the Special Committee:

(1) The Special Committee reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of St. Helena to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960.

(2) The Special Committee urges the administering Power, in consultation with the Legislative Council and other representatives of the people of St. Helena, to continue to take all necessary steps to ensure the speedy implementation of the Declaration with respect to the Territory and, in that connection, reaffirms the importance of promoting an awareness among the people of St. Helena of the possibilities open to them in the exercise of their right to self-determination.

(3) The Special Committee reaffirms the responsibility of the administering Power to promote the economic and social development of the Territory and calls upon the administering Power to continue, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to strengthen the economy and to increase its assistance to diversification programmes.

(4) The Special Committee urges the administering Power, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to continue to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the people of St. Helena to own and dispose of the natural resources of the Territory, including marine resources, and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources.

(5) The Special Committee expresses the view that the administering Power should continue to implement infrastructure and community development projects aimed at improving the general welfare of the community, including the unemployment situation, and to encourage local initiative and enterprise, particularly in the areas of fisheries development, forestry, handicrafts and agriculture. In this connection, the Committee, in view of the serious developments in South Africa, notes with concern the trade and transportation dependence of the Territory on South Africa.

(6) The Special Committee reaffirms that continued development assistance from the administering Power, together with any assistance that the international community might be able to provide, constitutes an important means of developing the economic potential of the Territory and of enhancing the capacity of its people to realize fully the goals set forth in the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations.

(7) The Special Committee calls upon the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue to take all necessary measures to accelerate progress in the social and economic life of the Territory. In this connection, the Special Committee welcomes the contribution of the United Nations Development Programme to the development of the Territory.

(8) The Special Committee notes with deep concern the continued presence of military facilities on the dependency of Ascension Island. In this regard the Committee, recalling all the relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations concerning military bases and installations in colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories, urges the administering Power to take all the necessary measures not to involve the Territory in any offensive acts or interference against neighbouring States by the racist régime of South Africa.

(9) Mindful that United Nations visiting missions provide an effective means of assessing the situation in Non-Self-Governing Territories, the Special Committee considers that the possibility of sending a visiting mission to St. Helena at an appropriate time should be kept under review.

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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON SMALL TERRITORIES

Rapporteur: Mr. Dag MJAALAND (Norway)

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

A. Consideration by the Sub-Committee

1. The Sub-Committee considered the Territory of the Turks and Caicos Islands at its 602nd, 603rd and 613th meetings, between 5 April and 1 June 1990.

2. During its consideration of this item, the Sub-Committee had before it the working papers prepared by the Secretariat on the Territory (A/AC.109/1023 and Corr.1, A/AC.109/1023/Add.1 and A/AC.109/1024).

3. In a letter dated 30 January 1986 addressed to the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations had informed him of the following:

> "My Government has decided that the United Kingdom will henceforth not take part in the work of the Special Committee on decolonization or its sub-committees ... we shall continue strictly to fulfil our responsibilities under the United Nations Charter towards our Non-Self-Governing Territories, particularly the responsibilities set out in Article 73. We shall also inform the Secretary-General of any relevant political and constitutional developments in those Territories."

4. The delegation of the United Kingdom did not participate in the Sub-Committee's consideration of the Territory of the Turks and Caicos Islands, thus making it difficult for the Sub-Committee to conduct a thorough review of developments in the Territory.

5. The Sub-Committee, recalling that it had been the established procedure for the administering Power to participate in the consideration of the Territory under its administration and bearing in mind the provisions of the relevant General Assembly resolutions, particularly those that invited all States to co-operate fully with the Special Committee in the fulfilment of its mandate, expressed its regret at the non-participation of the United Kingdom and the negative impact that this had on its work. In that regard, the Sub-Committee stressed the importance of multilateral efforts within the framework of the United Nations for the solution of the remaining problems of decolonization. It reiterated its appeal to the administering Power to reconsider its decision and to resume its participation in the work of the Special Committee, and called upon the administering Power to provide detailed and up-to-date information under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations.

B. Adoption of the report

6. Having carefully examined the situation in the Turks and Caicos Islands, the Sub-Committee adopted by consensus its conclusions and recommendations on the Turks and Caicos Islands at its 613th meeting, on 1 June 1990 (see para. 8).

7. The Sub-Committee adopted the present report at the same meeting.

C. Conclusions and recommendations

8. The Sub-Committee submits the following conclusions and recommendations concerning the Turks and Caicos Islands for adoption by the Special Committee:

(1) The Special Committee reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960.

(2) The Special Committee reiterates the view that such factors as territorial size, geographical location, size of population and limited natural resources should in no way delay the speedy exercise by the people of the Territory of their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), which fully applies to the Turks and Caicos Islands.

(3) The Special Committee reiterates further that it is the obligation of the administering Power to create such conditions in the Territory as will enable the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands to exercise freely and without interference their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in accordance with

General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), as well as other relevant resolutions of the Assembly.

(4) The Special Committee reaffirms that it is ultimately for the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands themselves to determine freely their future political status. In this connection, the Committee reaffirms the importance of fostering an awareness among the people of the Territory of the possibilities open to them in the exercise of their right to self-determination and independence in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration.

(5) The Special Committee notes the entry into force of a new Constitution under the Turks and Caicos Islands Constitution Order 1988.

(6) The Special Committee reaffirms the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter of the United Nations to develop its dependent Territories economically and socially, and in this regard urges the administering Power, in consultation with the territorial Government, to continue to take the necessary measures to promote the economic and social development of the Turks and Caicos Islands.

(7) The Special Committee urges the administering Power, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands to own and dispose of the natural resources of the Territory, including marine resources, and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources. The Committee notes the announcement by the United Kingdom that as from 1 January 1990, the territorial waters of the Turks and Caicos Islands would be expanded from 3 to 12 miles.

(8) The Special Committee calls upon the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue to take all necessary measures to accelerate progress in the social and economic life of the Territory. In this respect, the Committee notes with appreciation the continued contribution of the United Nations Development Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, to the development of the Territory.

(9) The Special Committee, in that context, welcomes the adoption by the territorial Government of a national development plan aimed at expanding the infrastructure of the Territory and strengthening several key sectors, including tourism, fisheries, water resources management and human resources development. It also notes the appointment by the territorial Government of a new Tourist Board that is fully representative of all sectors of the industry, aimed at ensuring that Turks and Caicos Islanders have an equal opportunity to join the mainstream of development and employment in tourism.

(10) The Special Committee notes the establishment, under the 1988 Constitution, of a Public Service Commission (PSC) to advise the Governor on civil service matters, and of a Public Service Training Board under PSC to advise on, and assist in, the supervision of policies and programmes for the training of public officers at all levels. The Committee urges the administering Power, in

consultation with the territorial Government, to continue to provide the necessary assistance for the local staffing of the civil service at all levels and for the training of qualified local personnel in the skills essential to the social and economic development of the Territory.

(11) The Special Committee notes with concern the vulnerability of the Territory to drug activities and, in that connection, calls upon the administering Power to continue to take all necessary measures, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to combat the drug problem in all its aspects within the Territory.

(12) Mindful that United Nations visiting missions provide an effective means of assessing the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, the Special Committee considers that the possibility of sending a further visiting mission to the Turks and Caicos Islands at an appropriate time should be kept under review.

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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON SMALL TERRITORIES

Rapporteur: Mr. Dag MJAALAND (Norway)

TOKELAU

A. Consideration by the Sub-Committee

1. The Sub-Committee considered the Territory of Tokelau at its 606th, 607th and 618th meetings, on 26 April and 14 June 1990.

2. During its consideration of this item, the Sub-Committee had before it the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the Territory (A/AC.109/1036).

3. At the invitation of the Chairman and in accordance with established procedure, a representative of New Zealand, as the administering Power concerned, participated in the discussions of the Sub-Committee. A visiting Special Representative of Tokelau also participated in the deliberations of the Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee expressed its appreciation for that participation and for the additional information provided to it.

B. Adoption of the report

4. Having carefully examined the situation in Tokelau, the Sub-Committee adopted by consensus its conclusions and recommendations on the Territory at its 618th meeting, on 14 June 1990 (see para. 6).

5. The Sub-Committee adopted the present report at the same meeting.

C. Conclusions and recommendations

6. The Sub-Committee submits the following conclusions and recommendations concerning Tokelau for adoption by the Special Committee:

(1) The Special Committee reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of Tokelau to self-determination and independence in accordance with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960.

(2) The Special Committee reiterates the view that such factors as territorial size, geographical location, size of population and limited natural resources should in no way delay the speedy implementation of the Declaration, which fully applies to Tokelau.

(3) The Special Committee reiterates further that it is the responsibility of the administering Power to create such conditions in the Territory as will enable the people of Tokelau to exercise freely and without interference their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), as well as all other relevant resolutions of the Assembly.

(4) The Special Committee reaffirms that it is ultimately for the people of Tokelau themselves to determine freely their future political status. In this connection, the Committee reaffirms the importance of fostering an awareness among the people of the Territory of the possibilities open to them in the exercise of their right to self-determination and independence in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration.

(5) The Special Committee notes the continuing devolution of authority to the General Fono (Council), the highest political authority in Tokelau. It notes the information provided by the administering Power that Tokelau has focused on consolidating recent developments and assimilating them into the customs and culture of the Territory. It notes also the information relayed by the administering Power from the Official Secretary that Tokelau in 1989 focused on strengthening its political institutions. It welcomes the information that Tokelau's wish to pursue avenues that give greater political autonomy to its leadership remains keen, while it wishes to maintain its current relationship with New Zealand.

(6) The Special Committee notes also that such evolution of the indigenous political institutions of Tokelau must proceed in full recognition of the distinct and valued cultural heritage and traditions of Tokelau.

(7) The Special Committee notes that the people of Tokelau have determined to manage their economic and political development in such a way as to ensure the preservation of their social, cultural and traditional heritage, and urges the administering Power to continue to respect fully the wishes of the people of Tokelau in this regard.

(8) The Special Committee welcomes the continued progress towards the drafting of a legal code that is in conformity with the traditional laws and cultural values of Tokelau.

(9) The Special Committee notes with satisfaction the creation within the New Zealand Ministry of External Relations and Trade of a Tokelau Unit and expresses its hope that this will further facilitate and enhance the relations between the Territory and the administering Power.

(10) The Special Committee reaffirms the responsibility of the administering Power to promote the economic and social development of the Territory. In this connection, the Committee recommends that priority should continue to be given to the diversification of the Territory's economy in order to provide the foundations for sound social and economic development.

(11) The Special Committee urges the administering Power, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the people of Tokelau to own and dispose of the natural resources of the Territory, including marine resources, and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources.

(12) The Special Committee calls upon the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue to take all necessary measures to accelerate progress in the social and economic life of the Territory. In this respect, the Committee notes with appreciation the continued contribution of the United Nations Development Programme to the development of the Territory.

(13) The Special Committee takes note with appreciation of the relief assistance extended to Tokelau by the administering Power, other Member States and international organizations, in particular the United Nations Development Programme and the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, following the natural disasters caused by cyclone Ofa in February 1990.

(14) The Special Committee calls on all governmental and non-governmental organizations, financial institutions, Member States and agencies of the United Nations system to grant Tokelau special emergency economic assistance to mitigate the effects of cyclone Ofa, and to enable the Territory to meet its medium- and long-term reconstruction and rehabilitation requirements.

(15) The Special Committee takes note of the decision of the General Fono (Council) to include Tokelau in the multilateral Fisheries Agreement between the United States of America and States members of the Forum Fisheries Agency, and urges the administering Power to ensure that the fishing grounds of the Territory are protected.

(16) The Special Committee calls upon the administering Power, in consultation with the General Fono (Council), to continue to expand its development assistance to Tokelau in order to promote the economic and social development of the Territory.

(17) The Special Committee takes note of an inspection of the Tokelau Public Service and the Apia staff undertaken by the State Services Commission in February/March 1989 and expresses the hope that the completion of this inspection has contributed to the development of the Public Service of the Territory.

(18) The Special Committee takes due note of the strong opposition consistently expressed by the people of Tokelau to nuclear tests being carried out in the Pacific region and their concern that the tests constitute a grave threat to the natural resources of the Territory and its social and economic development. In this regard, the Committee takes note of relevant General Assembly resolutions.

(19) The Special Committee takes note of the other major environmental concerns expressed by the people of Tokelau, including the impact that a sea-level rise resulting from global climate change would have on the low-lying atolls of Tokelau, the dumping of toxic waste in the region and the practice of driftnet fishing, and calls on all Member States and organizations of the United Nations system to implement the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions in this regard, in particular resolutions 44/206, 44/225 and 44/226, all of 22 December 1989.

(20) The Special Committee welcomes the assistance extended to Tokelau by the United Nations Development Programme and takes note of the consideration being given to the installation of a new satellite system in the Territory with a view to assisting the free flow of information, as well as the education process in the Territory.

(21) The Special Committee invites the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as regional and international institutions, to extend all possible assistance to Tokelau with a view to accelerating progress in the social and the economic life of the Territory. Such assistance should take due account of the decisions of the General Fono (Council) on the development priorities of the Territory and the wish of the people to preserve their unique life-style.

(22) The Special Committee takes note that the administering Power is investigating ways of improving the shipping services to Tokelau to ensure better communication with the outside world, and that efforts are being made towards the early establishment of an inter-atoll service.

(23) Bearing in mind the importance of the information provided by the United Nations Visiting Mission to Tokelau, 1986, in assessing the situation in the Territory, the Special Committee considers that the possibility of sending a further visiting mission to Tokelau at an appropriate time should be kept under review.

UNITED NATIONS

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General Assembly

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A/AC.109/L.1735
20 July 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON SMALL TERRITORIES

Rapporteur: Mr. Dag MJAALAND (Norway)

AMERICAN SAMOA

A. Consideration by the Sub-Committee

1. The Sub-Committee considered the Territory of American Samoa at its 605th to 607th and 614th meetings, between 24 April and 4 June 1990.

2. During its consideration of this item, the Sub-Committee had before it the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the Territory (A/AC.109/1033).

3. At the invitation of the Chairman and in accordance with established procedure, a representative of the United States of America, as the administering Power concerned, participated in the discussions of the Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee expressed its appreciation for that participation and the additional information provided to it.

B. Adoption of the report

4. Having carefully examined the situation in American Samoa, the Sub-Committee adopted by consensus its conclusions and recommendations on the Territory at its 614th meeting, on 4 June 1990 (see para. 6).

5. The Sub-Committee adopted the present report at the same meeting.

C. Conclusions and recommendations

6. The Sub-Committee submits the following conclusions and recommendations concerning American Samoa for adoption by the Special Committee:

(1) The Special Committee reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of American Samoa to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960.

(2) The Special Committee reiterates the view that such factors as territorial size, geographical location, size of population and limited natural resources should in no way delay the speedy exercise by the people of the Territory of their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration, which fully applies to American Samoa.

(3) The Special Committee reiterates further that it is the responsibility of the administering Power to create such conditions in the Territory as will enable the people of American Samoa to exercise freely and without interference their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), as well as all other relevant resolutions of the Assembly.

(4) The Special Committee reaffirms that it is ultimately for the people of American Samoa themselves to determine freely their future political status. In this connection, the Committee reaffirms the importance of fostering an awareness among the people of the Territory of the possibilities open to them in the exercise of their right to self-determination and independence in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration.

(5) The Special Committee reaffirms the responsibility of the administering Power to promote the economic and social development of the Territory and, in this connection, recommends that priority should be given to the diversification of the Territory's economy in order to provide the foundations for sound social and economic development, to reduce its heavy economic and financial dependence on the United States and to create more employment opportunities for the people of the Territory.

(6) The Special Committee urges the administering Power, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the people of American Samoa to own and dispose of the natural resources of the Territory, including marine resources, and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources.

(7) The Special Committee notes with grave concern the destruction wrought by cyclone Ofa in February 1990 and, in this respect, notes the speedy emergency assistance provided to the Territory and urges that this assistance be continued.

(8) The Special Committee calls upon the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue to take all necessary measures to accelerate progress in the social and economic life of the Territory.

(9) The Special Committee urges the administering Power to continue to foster close relations between the Territory and other island communities in the region and promote co-operation between the territorial Government and regional institutions, as well as the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system.

(10) Mindful that United Nations visiting missions provide an effective means of assessing the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, the Special Committee reiterates the value of sending a further visiting mission to American Samoa and requests the administering Power to facilitate such a mission.

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20 July 1990

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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON SMALL TERRITORIES

Rapporteur: Mr. Dag MJAALAND (Norway)

GUAM

A. Consideration by the Sub-Committee

1. The Sub-Committee considered the Territory of Guam at its 605th to 607th and 614th meetings, between 24 April and 4 June 1990.

2. During its consideration of this item, the Sub-Committee had before it the working papers prepared by the Secretariat on the Territory (A/AC.109/1017 and A/AC.109/1018).

3. At the invitation of the Chairman and in accordance with established procedure, a representative of the United States of America, as the administering Power concerned, participated in the discussions of the Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee expressed its appreciation for that participation and for the additional information provided to it.

B. Adoption of the report

4. Having carefully examined the situation in Guam, the Sub-Committee adopted by consensus its conclusions and recommendations on the Territory at its 614th meeting, on 4 June 1990 (see para. 6).

5. The Sub-Committee adopted the present report at the same meeting.

C. Conclusions and recommendations

6. The Sub-Committee submits the following conclusions and recommendations concerning Guam for adoption by the Special Committee:

(1) The Special Committee reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of Guam to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960.

(2) The Special Committee reiterates the view that such factors as territorial size, geographical location, size of population and limited natural resources should in no way delay the speedy exercise by the people of Guam of their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), which fully applies to the Territory.

(3) The Special Committee reiterates further that it is the responsibility of the administering Power to create such conditions in the Territory as will enable the people of Guam to exercise freely and without interference their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), as well as all other relevant resolutions of the Assembly.

(4) The Special Committee reaffirms that it is ultimately for the people of Guam themselves to determine freely their future political status. In this connection, the Committee reaffirms the importance of fostering an awareness among the people of the Territory of the possibilities open to them in the exercise of their right to self-determination and independence in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration.

(5) The Special Committee recalls with approval that in referendums held in Guam in 1987, a draft Commonwealth Act was endorsed by the people of Guam which, upon its expeditious enactment by the United States Congress, would reaffirm the right of the people of Guam to draft their own Constitution and to govern themselves. The Committee urges the administering Power to give full recognition to the status and rights of the Chamorro people and, in this context, takes note of the statement by the representative of the administering Power that the cultural identity of the Chamorro people, the indigenous inhabitants of Guam, would be recognized. The Committee also notes that the draft Commonwealth Act provides that the Congress of the United States would recognize the inalienable right to self-determination of the Chamorro people, for which provisions would be made in the Guam Constitution.

(6) The Special Committee reaffirms its strong conviction that the presence of military bases and installations in the Territory could constitute a major obstacle to the implementation of the Declaration and that it is the responsibility of the administering Power to ensure that the existence of such bases and installations does not hinder the population of the Territory from exercising its right to self-determination and independence in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter. In this regard, the Special Committee recalls all the

relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly relating to military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration.

(7) The Special Committee urges the administering Power to continue to take all necessary measures not to involve the Territory in any offensive acts or interference against other States and to comply fully with the purposes and principles of the Charter, the Declaration and the resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly relating to military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration.

(8) The Special Committee reaffirms the responsibility of the administering Power to promote the economic and social development of the Territory and, in this connection, recommends that priority should be given to the diversification of the Territory's economy in order to provide the foundations for sound social and economic development.

(9) The Special Committee notes the statement by the representative of the administering Power concerning the growth in tourism and the Government of Guam's desire for balanced economic growth. In this connection, it calls upon the administering Power to take further steps to strengthen and diversify the economy of the Territory with a view to reducing its economic dependence on the administering Power.

(10) The Special Committee urges the administering Power, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the people of Guam to own and dispose of the natural resources of the Territory, including marine resources, and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources. In this connection, the Committee notes the potential for diversifying and developing the economy of Guam offered by, for example, commercial fishing and agriculture, and reaffirms its call upon the administering Power to support measures by the territorial Government aimed at removing constraints to growth in these areas and to ensure their development to the fullest extent.

(11) The Special Committee calls upon the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue to take all necessary measures to accelerate progress in the social and economic life of the Territory.

(12) The Special Committee notes that one of the obstacles to economic growth, particularly to agricultural development, stems from the fact that large tracts of land are held by the United States federal authorities (30 per cent for military and 1 per cent for non-military purposes). The Committee further notes that the 1977 Guam Land Use Plan had recommended the release of 2,100 hectares of surplus federal land to the Government of Guam and that according to information transmitted to the Committee in April 1990 by the Guam Commission on Self-Determination, 190 hectares had been transferred by the Navy to the Government of Guam, a further 462 hectares of the identified land had been released and an additional 175 hectares are in the process of being returned to the Government of Guam. In this connection, the Committee calls upon the administering Power, in

co-operation with the territorial Government, to expedite the transfer of remaining land held by the United States federal authorities to the people of the Territory and to take the necessary steps to protect their property rights.

(13) Mindful that United Nations visiting missions provide an effective means of assessing the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, the Special Committee reiterates the view that the possibility of sending a further visiting mission to Guam at an appropriate time should be kept under review.

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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH
REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF
INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES
AND PEOPLES

REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON SMALL TERRITORIES

Rapporteur: Mr. Dag MJAALAND (Norway)

GUAM

Corrigendum

Page 2, paragraph 6, subparagraph (5)

The first sentence should read

The Special Committee recalls that in referendums held in Guam in 1987, a draft Commonwealth Act was endorsed by the people of Guam which, upon expeditious enactment by the United States Congress, would reaffirm the right of the people of Guam to draft their own constitution and to govern themselves.

UNITED
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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION
WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION
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OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL
COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON SMALL TERRITORIES

Rapporteur: Mr. Dag MJAALAND (Norway)

TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

A. Consideration by the Sub-Committee

1. The Sub-Committee considered the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands at its 615th to 617th and 619th meetings, between 7 and 15 June 1990.

2. During its consideration of this item, the Sub-Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the Territory (subsequently issued as A/AC.109/1038).

B. Adoption of the report

3. Having carefully examined the situation in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, the Sub-Committee adopted by consensus its conclusions and recommendations on the Territory at its 619th meeting, on 15 June 1990 (see para. 6).

4. The representative of Norway expressed the reservations of his delegation concerning paragraph 6.

5. The Sub-Committee adopted the present report at the same meeting.

C. Conclusions and recommedations

6. The Sub-Committee submits the following conclusions and recommendations concerning the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands for adoption by the Special Committee:

(1) The Special Committee reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960. The Committee reaffirms the importance of ensuring that the people of the Trust Territory fully and freely exercise their inalienable right and that the obligations of the Administering Authority are duly discharged under the Trusteeship Agreement 1/ and the Charter.

(2) The Special Committee reiterates the view that such factors as territorial size, geographical location, size of population and limited natural resources should in no way delay the speedy implementation of the Declaration, which fully applies to the Trust Territory.

(3) The Special Committee notes with regret the continued non-participation of the Administering Authority in the work of the Sub-Committee during its consideration of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. In this regard, the Committee stresses the importance of multilateral efforts within the framework of the United Nations for the solution of the remaining problems of decolonization. It reiterates its appeal to the Administering Authority to reconsider its decision and to resume its participation in the work of the Special Committee, as well as to provide the Committee with vital and up-to-date information on the Territory, in accordance with its obligation under the Charter.

(4) The Special Committee notes with regret that there is no co-operation between the Trusteeship Council and the Committee in relation to the Trust Territory despite the expressed readiness of the Committee to engage in such co-operation.

(5) The Special Committee recalls its previous appeals to the Administering Authority that the people of the Trust Territory should be given the fullest opportunity to inform and educate themselves about the various options open to them in the exercise of their inalienable right to self-determination and independence, and expresses the view that such programmes should be extended and reinforced. The Committee recognizes that it is ultimately for the people of the Trust Territory to decide their political destiny, and calls upon the Administering Authority not to fragment the Territory or take any action against the wishes of the people as expressed in any genuine act of self-determination or their rights in accordance with the Declaration.

(6) The Special Committee stresses the need to preserve the cultural identity and heritage of the Micronesian people and calls upon the Administering Authority to take all necessary steps towards that end.

(7) The Special Committee takes note of the intention of the Administering Authority to seek the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement and urges the Administering Authority to ensure that this is in strict conformity with the Charter.

(8) The Special Committee notes the disputes which have arisen between the local authorities of the Northern Mariana Islands and the Administering Authority in relation to the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America. 2/ It also notes that the referendum held in Palau on 6 February 1990 on the Compact of Free Association failed to attain the 75 per cent majority required under the Palau Constitution. 3/ The Committee reiterates its call upon the Administering Authority in that connection to take all necessary steps to ensure the full enjoyment by the people of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands as a whole of their inalienable right to self-determination and independence, in accordance with the Charter and the Declaration.

(9) The Special Committee, recalling General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and all other resolutions of the United Nations relating to military bases and installations in colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories, reaffirms its strong conviction that the presence of military bases and installations in the Trust Territory could constitute a major obstacle to the implementation of the Declaration and that it is the responsibility of the Administering Authority to ensure that the existence of such bases and installations does not hinder the population of the Territory from exercising its right to self-determination and independence in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter.

(10) The Special Committee urges the Administering Authority to continue to take all necessary measures not to involve the Trust Territory in any offensive acts or interference against other States and to comply fully with the purposes and principles of the Charter, the Declaration and the resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly relating to military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration.

(11) The Special Committee notes the concern expressed by the people of the Trust Territory about the presence of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons in areas under their territorial jurisdiction. In this regard, the Committee welcomes the interest of the Trust Territory in the creation of a nuclear-free zone in the Pacific.

(12) The Special Committee, noting the increasing devolution of power to the people of the Trust Territory, welcomes this development and urges the Administering Authority to continue this process in accordance with the Charter and the Declaration.

(13) The Special Committee, noting that the Trust Territory is still, to a large extent, economically and financially dependent on the Administering Authority, is of the view that the Administering Authority should take all necessary measures to enable the people of the Trust Territory to achieve economic independence. In this regard, the Committee recalls the obligation of the Administering Authority relating to the economic development of the Trust Territory.

(14) The Special Committee notes that all war damage claims under Title II have already been settled and that payment of Title I war damage claims is nearing completion. The Special Committee expresses the hope that all remaining claims will be settled in the near future.

(15) The Special Committee urges the Administering Authority, in co-operation with the local authorities of the Trust Territory, to safeguard the inalienable right of the people of the Territory to their natural resources, including marine resources, by taking effective measures to guarantee their right to own and dispose of those resources and to establish and maintain control over their future development. In this connection, the Special Committee urges the Administering Authority to assist the maritime authorities of the Trust Territory in strengthening the existing legislation concerning the exploitation, management and conservation of a 200-mile exclusive economic zone. The Committee reaffirms its conviction that the rights of the people of Micronesia over such a zone should be respected and that they should receive all benefits deriving from it.

(16) The Special Committee stresses the need for improved social services, particularly health care in the Trust Territory, and underscores the obligation of the Administering Authority to continue promoting that sector. It further emphasizes the importance of encouraging greater participation in the field of health care by qualified indigenous people. It notes with satisfaction the continued co-operation in the health field between the Trust Territory and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, such as the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Development Programme.

(17) The Special Committee welcomes the development of closer relations between the local authorities of the Trust Territory and the various regional and international agencies, in particular those specialized agencies within the United Nations system. The Committee urges that priority should continue to be given to the promotion of closer contacts with countries of the region in all fields.

(18) The Special Committee notes that under Article 83 of the Charter, the Security Council exercises all functions of the United Nations relating to strategic areas, including the approval of the terms of the trusteeship agreements and of their alteration or amendment and, in this regard, is confident that special attention will be given by the Security Council to the full implementation of all provisions of the Trusteeship Agreement and the Charter.

(19) The Special Committee takes note of the fact that the Trusteeship Council, at its fifty-sixth session, noted with satisfaction the assurances given by the Administering Authority that it would continue to fulfil its responsibilities under the Charter and the Trusteeship Agreement. 4/ The Committee reiterates its call upon the Administering Authority in that connection to discharge those responsibilities in strict conformity with the provisions of the Charter, particularly Article 83, and the Declaration.

Notes

1/ Trusteeship Agreement for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (United Nations publication, Sales No. 1957.VI.A.1).

2/ For the text of the Covenant, see Official Records of the Trusteeship Council, Forty-second Session, Sessional Fascicle, annexes, document T/1759.

3/ For the report of the United Nations Visiting Mission to Observe the Plebiscite in Palau, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, February 1990, see Official Records of the Trusteeship Council, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 1 (T/1942 and Corr.1).

4/ Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-fourth Year, Special Supplement No. 1 (S/20843), para. 172.

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REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF
INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES
AND PEOPLES

REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON SMALL TERRITORIES

Rapporteur: Mr. Dag MJAALAND (Norway)

UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS

A. Consideration by the Sub-Committee

1. The Sub-Committee considered the Territory of the United States Virgin Islands at its 605th to 607th and 619th meetings, between 24 April and 15 June 1990.

2. During its consideration of this item, the Sub-Committee had before it the working papers prepared by the Secretariat on the Territory (A/AC.109/1029, A/AC.109/1030 and A/AC.109/1034).

3. At the invitation of the Chairman and in accordance with established procedure, a representative of the United States of America, as the administering Power concerned, participated in the discussions of the Sub-Committee. A representative of the Government of the United States Virgin Islands also participated in the discussions of the Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee expressed its appreciation for that participation and for the additional information provided to it.

B. Adoption of the report

4. Having carefully examined the situation in the United States Virgin Islands, the Sub-Committee adopted by consensus its conclusions and recommendations on the Territory, as orally amended, at its 619th meeting, on 15 June 1990 (see para. 6).

5. The Sub-Committee adopted the present report at the same meeting.

C. Conclusions and recommendations

6. The Sub-Committee submits the following conclusions and recommendations concerning the United States Virgin Islands for adoption by the Special Committee:

(1) The Special Committee reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of the United States Virgin Islands to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960.

(2) The Special Committee reaffirms its conviction that such factors as territorial size, geographical location, size of population and limited natural resources should in no way delay the implementation of the Declaration, which fully applies to the United States Virgin Islands.

(3) The Special Committee reiterates that it is the responsibility of the administering Power to create such conditions in the Territory as will enable the people of the United States Virgin Islands to exercise freely and without interference their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), as well as all other relevant resolutions of the Assembly.

(4) The Special Committee reaffirms that it is ultimately for the people of the United States Virgin Islands themselves to determine freely their future political status. In this connection, the Committee reaffirms the importance of fostering an awareness among the people of the Territory of the possibilities open to them in the exercise of their right to self-determination and independence in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration.

(5) The Special Committee takes note of the statement by the representative of the administering Power that her Government continues to maintain its long-standing support for the principle of self-determination and that the Territories under its administration are pursuing their right to self-determination at a pace of their own choosing. The Committee also takes note of the statement by the representative of the administering Power that the referendum on the future status of the United States Virgin Islands planned for November 1989 has been rescheduled by the territorial Government for June 1991, as a result of the devastation of hurricane Hugo (in September 1989). The Committee also notes that provision has been made for a further run-off election in December 1991.

(6) The Special Committee also notes that the public education programme was begun in January 1989 and that efforts are being made to streamline the political education and referendum process by, inter alia, dividing the seven political options into three categories. The Committee calls upon the administering Power, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to facilitate the ongoing political education programme in the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of the possibilities open to them in the exercise of their right to self-determination in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 15 December 1960.

(7) The Special Committee takes note of the statement by the representative of the Territory that the Commission on Status and Federal Relations considered, inter alia, the relevance of international law in the process of self-determination, voter residency requirements for political status referendums and the role of the United Nations in observing acts of self-determination. The Committee takes note of the concerns expressed by the Commission and the territorial Government regarding residency requirements for participation in acts of self-determination. In this context, the Special Committee takes note of the relevant United Nations resolutions regarding acts of self-determination in colonial Territories.

(8) The Special Committee urges the administering Power to take all necessary measures to comply fully with the purposes and principles of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly relating to military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration.

(9) The Special Committee urges the administering Power, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to take effective measures to continue to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the people of the United States Virgin Islands to own and dispose of the natural resources of the Territory, including marine resources, and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources.

(10) The Special Committee calls upon the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue to take all necessary measures to accelerate progress in the social and economic life of the Territory.

(11) The Special Committee reaffirms the responsibility of the administering Power to continue to promote the economic and social development of the United States Virgin Islands and reiterates the importance of diversifying the Territory's economy with a view to reducing its heavy economic dependence on the administering Power.

(12) The Special Committee notes with concern the devastation caused by hurricane Hugo to the Territory, particularly to its social and economic infrastructure and to the tourism and agricultural sectors. In this regard, the Committee urges the administering Power, Member States and relevant agencies of the United Nations system to continue to contribute generously towards the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the Territory in accordance with General Assembly resolution 44/99 of 11 December 1989.

(13) The Special Committee takes due note of the concern consistently expressed by representatives of the Save Long Bay Coalition Inc. and by the territorial Government regarding the activities of the West Indian Company Ltd. (WICO), a Danish development company, in the reclamation and development of submerged land at Long Bay in the Charlotte Amalie Harbour. The Committee recalls that the issue had been settled by litigation and that the activities of WICO are subject to the regulatory powers of the Government of the United States Virgin Islands and notes other statements by the representative of the territorial Government that the latter would seek external resources to acquire the property.

(14) The Special Committee notes the statement by the Governor in February 1990 that he had requested permission from the administering Power to seek associate membership in the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States.

(15) Mindful of the importance of the participation of the Territory in regional and international organizations, the Special Committee notes that the Territory has continued to expand its co-operation with other Caribbean Governments and reiterates its call upon the administering Power to continue to facilitate the participation of the Territory in those bodies, as well as in those organizations in which the Territory has expressed an interest in seeking membership and at which the Territory will be the subject of discussion. In this connection, the Special Committee notes that a representative of the Territory continues to participate, as a member of the delegation of the administering Power, in annual meetings of the Caribbean Group for Co-operation in Economic Development. In this regard, the Committee reiterates its call upon the administering Power to seek a status in that Group for the territorial Government similar to that of other dependent Territories within the Group.

(16) The Special Committee notes with concern the vulnerability of the Territory to drug activities and the activities of the territorial Government to eradicate the production, distribution and use of illicit drugs. In that connection, the Committee calls upon the administering Power to continue to take all necessary measures, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to combat the drug problem in all its aspects within the Territory.

(17) Mindful that United Nations visiting missions provide an effective means of assessing the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and taking note of the statement by the representative of the administering Power that the possibility of sending a visiting mission to observe the referendum to be held in June 1991 would be taken into consideration, the Special Committee considers that the possibility of sending a further visiting mission to the United States Virgin Islands should be kept under review.